

Employment schemes for rural areas of Assam

† 4374. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any new, effective and concrete scheme for solving the problem of unemployment in rural areas of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (c) The following programmes have been formulated by the Government solving the unemployment problem in rural areas of the country including Assam:—

(i) Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY):— SGSY is a holistic self-employment scheme for the rural poor which is being implemented since 1.4.99. The major objective of the programme is to provide assistance to the rural poor through bank credit and Government subsidy to acquire income generating assets and take up self employment programmes. The programme envisages every assisted family to cross the poverty line in three years.

(ii) Jawahar Gram Smridhi Yojana (JGSY):— The primary objective of the scheme is to create demand driven community village infrastructure including durable assets at the village level to enable the rural poor to increase the opportunities for sustained employment and generation of supplementary employment for the unemployed poor in the rural areas.

(iii) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS):— The primary objective of the EAS is creation of additional wage employment opportunities during the period of acute shortage of wage employment through manual work for the rural poor living below the poverty line. The scheme also envisages creation of durable

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community social and economic assets for sustained employment and development.

International Training Programme on Sustainable Rural Development

4375. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Training Programme on "Sustainable Rural Development" organised jointly by the National Institute of Rural Development and the Colombo Pact Secretariat was held at Hyderabad, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the subjects discussed at the Training Programme;

(c) the suggestions made at the Training Programme; and

(d) the reactions of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir. An International Programme was held at National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, during March 20-29, 2001.

(b) The details of the Training Programme and the subjects discussed are as under:-

(i) The Programme was jointly organised by NIRD and Colombo Pact Secretariat (CPS) with financial support from Department of Economic Affairs.

(ii) In all, 22 participants from Colombo Pact Secretariat (CPS) Member countries including India attended the programme,

(iii) The subjects revolved around three major themes: Rural Development Policies, Strategies and Programmes; Participatory Rural Development; and Planning and Management of Sustainable Rural Development Programmes.

The details of issues covered are given below:-

- To share the experiences of experiments in rural development policy and implementation of Colombo Pact Secretariat (CPS) Member Countries.